

DRIVER INFORMATION SYSTEM

Abstract

An information system for providing services
5 including traffic and navigation services, as well as
other information services to a driver. One versions of
the system makes use of existing components of a wireless
telephone system, for example, by using the input and
output capabilities of a telephone handset. Another
10 version is a portable system that includes multiple
switches for initiating access to a remote server in one
of a number of operating modes. For instance the system
has switches for initiating traffic information, roadside
assistance, personal information, or emergency modes.
15 The system includes a positioning system for generating
position data related to a geographic location of the
system, and a wireless communication device. The system
also includes an audio output device, such as a speaker
for presenting the received information. The system can
20 also include a storage for a unique identification of the
information system. This identification is passed to the
remote server through the wireless communication device.
Another version of the system provides both autonomous
and client-server based navigation services in which a
25 removable database supports route planning in a limited
area and a remote server supports route planning outside
that area.